

Senate Majority Committee Clerks

From: Siden, Rivka <rivkas@med.umich.edu>
Sent: Monday, January 25, 2016 8:18 PM
To: Senate Majority Committee Clerks
Subject: Senate Insurance Committee and SB 625.

Dear Committee members:

While cancer care has advanced, health plans have begun to impose significantly higher cost sharing requirements for oral treatment even when it is the most effective form of medication delivery. This can increase overall cost of care.

I am a clinical pharmacist specializing in clinical research in oncology and worked on the development of oral chemotherapeutic drugs for many years. I was so proud to see the new drugs helping patients and getting approved by the FDA. It will be very unfortunate if patients will not be able to benefit from these life saving drugs because they cannot afford the therapy.

I join the Michigan Society of Oncology and Hematology (MSHO) and the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) in their support of bipartisan legislation from Sen. Goeff Hansen, SB 625, which would help cancer patients in Michigan access oral anticancer drugs under the same general cost sharing rules that apply to intravenous and injected anticancer drugs.

Thank you,

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